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MAR 14 2006

Docket No.: 55670DIV(45858)
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Robert W. Blakesley et al.

Application No.: 10/600,584

Confirmation No.: 5497

Filed: June 19, 2003

Art Unit: 1631

For: ARCHIVING OF VECTORS

Examiner: J. S. Brusca

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

MS Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the restriction requirement set forth in the Office Action mailed December 16, 2005, applicant hereby provisionally elects claims 26-28 for continued examination, with traverse.

The Examiner has required restriction between:

1. Claims 26-28, drawn to a method of purifying polynucleotide vectors, classified in class 435 subclass 6.
2. Claims 29-32, drawn to a method of manipulating polynucleotide vectors, classified in class 435, subclass 6.

The Commissioner may require restriction if two or more independent and distinct inventions are claimed in a single application (37 CFR 1.142(a)). In the present case, although the claimed subject matter may be classified in different classes, the

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inventions are not completely independent. For example, there would be significant overlap between the searches conducted for each set of claims.

If the Examiner is aware of another method to make the product as claimed, using a process which is materially different from that set forth in the restricted claims, applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to substantiate his position in greater detail. Otherwise, it is respectfully requested that the restriction requirement be withdrawn, and that each of claims 26-32 presently pending in this application be examined.

Dated: March 14, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

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